(g) and (h) No such proposals are presently under consideration.

Annexure'A'

The India-Japan Study Committee

India Committee	Japan Committee
Dr. G. Thimmaiah, Chairman Member, Planning Commission	Mr. T. Kaifu, Hon. Chairman Former Prime Minister of Japan
Shri Salman Haidar, Foreign Secretary Govt. of India	Mr. Eijiro Noda, Chairman Ex- Ambassador of Japan in India.
Shri Ratan Tata, Chairman, Tata Industries Ltd.	Ms. Chie Nakane, Director, Shibusawa Foundation for Ecological Studies.
Shri Arjun Asrani Ex-Ambassador of India in Japan	Mr. Minoru Oda, President, The Institute of Physical and Chemical Research.
Shri Shekhar Datta, President Confederation of Indian Industries.	Mr. Kenji Yoshizawa, Deputy President, Bank of Japan
Shri Deepak Parekh Chairman, Housing Development Finance Corporation	Mr. S. Taketomi, Managing Director, The Industrial Bank of Japan Ltd.
Mrs. Devaki Jain, Honorary Adviser, National Commission for Women	Mr. Toshio Yamanouchi, Executive Adviser, Okara & Co. Ltd.
Prof. C.N.R. Rao President Jawaharlal Nehru Centre Advanced Scientific	Mr. Kyoichi Suzuki Senior Executive, Managing Director, Mitsui & Co. Ltd.
Adviser (I&M) Member-Planning Secretary Commission	Mr. Hisaya Nara, President, Mitsubishi Eco. Research Institute.
	Mr. Yoshinobu Sei, Member-Secretary

Autonomy to Jammu and Kashmir

1330. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir Dr. Farooq Abdullah had a meeting with the US Under Secretary of State, Ms. Robin Raphel at Delhi on February 2, 1997 and, as per press reports, they discussed the issue of Autonomy to Jammu & Kashmir; and

(b) if so, reaction of the Government to the discussion of this sensitive issue by the Chief Minister with a foreign diplomat?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) US Assistant Secretary of State for South Asian Affairs, Ms. Robin Raphel called on the Chief Minister of J&K on February 2, 1997 in New Delhi. The US Ambassador to India was also present at the meeting. The Chief Minister reviewed the General post-election scenario in the state with particular emphasis on the State Government's efforts to revive the administration and rebuild the state's economic and social infrastructure. As a part of this review, the question of autonomy as envisaged within the framework of the Indian Constitution, was also mentioned. The Chief Minister mentioned that this matter was being examined by a Committee headed by Dr. Karan Singh in order to elicit the views of all sections of the population of the state.

(b) Visiting senior officials from countries including the US routinely call on Chief Ministers and Governors during their visits to India. The discussions between the Chief Minister and the US Assistant Secretary were of a general nature regarding plans for reviving development activity in the state of J&K.

Silk Worms

1331. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Institute of Science (IIS) in Bangalore are coaxing silk worms to manufacture hormones and vaccines;

(b) whether worms so engineered, can act as factors for manufacturing important biomolecules; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) :(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore has produced harmones through silk worms and is presently working on the synthesis of vaccine candidate proteins. The silkworms, if standardized in appropriate conditions, can serve as "natural bioreactors". The biomolecules are produced using recombinant DNA methodologies through animal cell cultures, and once the "recombinant virus" is generated, the silkworm larval caterpillar can be used to produce the molecules.